

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 24, 1852.

The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

REPUBLICANS will vote for Judge Loomis to succeed Henry G. Davis in the Senate. They will not elect him, but they will honor a worthy man.

The Legislature seems to have settled down for a stay. Gentlemen who desire to be entirely comfortable will send home for their carriages.

To-day the two houses of the Legislature hall for a United States Senator. Mr. Kenna will slip through as though he had been greased with Standard oil.

CUNNINGHAM, the St. Louis reporter, who has made himself famous in a star engagement with Langtry's Freddie, is a "Colonel." That accounts for it. Those Missouri colonels are dead shots with the jaw line.

SENATOR CAMDEN in the North American Review for February "vindicating" the Standard Oil Company. Candor compels us to say that the Senator makes a poor flat of a bad case. It will require a little more space than we have at this time to show why.

ONE or two esteemed contemporaries, noting the clamorous demand for ex-Governor Mathews in the Third district, fear that his ex-Excellency would not accept the nomination for Kenna's seat in Congress. The ex-Governor is too well-bred to send his regards before he is invited to the feast.

"THERE seems to be a strong desire among the English Liberals to regard the Irish question as settled," remarks the Nation. We had inferred as much from the tone of the English press. But how can the Irish question be settled so long as the Irish stomach is empty? A hungry Irishman isn't reduced to submission by fine phrases.

THE Governor's message directed attention to a fact which deserves careful and intelligent consideration by the Legislature. He says: "The taxable values of the State have not increased in proportion to population." In other words, owing to antiquated and defective assessment laws, the immense addition to our wealth within the last ten years, from coal, oil and lumber is not shown on the tax books. Our general scheme of assessment was modeled many years ago, before we had mines and manufactures, and is unsuited to the present varied industries of West Virginia. Without the courage to raise the rate, the legislature passed a law to reassess our real estate, whereas it should have discovered a way to reach that vast amount of personal property which is now escaping taxation. It is common observation that our personal property has increased very largely within the last ten years, and yet we have this very suggestive contrast:

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount

Total personal property in 1871	\$10,642,961
Total personal property in 1881	\$7,462,851

Owing to defective laws, the decrease is \$3,180,110.

Yesterday Mr. Dovenor offered a resolution looking to the adjustment of this inequality. It is to be hoped the matter will be pressed. The action of the House will be watched with interest by the farming community. Proper steps should be taken to bring the statutes touching assessment more in harmony with the change which has taken place in the employments of the people.

Four but Proud.

The Senate of West Virginia, on Wednesday last, indignantly postponed a resolution instructing our representatives in Congress "to use their best efforts to secure an appropriation for the benefit of the school fund out of the overfunding treasury of the United States by a vote of seven yeas to nine nays." The Senate is not in a position to do this; besides, the adoption of such a policy would be the entering wedge whereby the "educational" element would soon take control of the State Government. The State Government should provide liberally for the schools without involving the United States in the matter.

"Lor' bless us!" exclaimed the old lady, as the kettle began to dance on the stove, "this new fangled steam is a mighty dangger to have about! What if that kettle should bust!"

If it hadn't been accustomed to hear something like this from the other side we should fear that the Republicans and Greenbackers, against the solemn protest of the Democrats, were trying to introduce something in the State that might "bust" and spread denolation over an unsuspecting State. "The Congress of the United States has no authority," "entering wedge," "a swarm of new office holders," "eat out our substance," "what familiar sounds! How they carry us back to the days when the only thoroughly lawful thing besides slavery was disunion!" But of recent years we thought we had noticed an enlargement of view south of Mason and Dickson's line.

Millions are asked for that the Father of Waters "may flow unvexed to the sea," and the doctrine of State-rights is not raised. The Mississippi overflows its banks, bearing away upon its mighty bosom lands and tenements, the government at Washington is appealed to for tents and provisions, the response is as prompt as the appeal, and the doctrine of State-rights is not thought of. The Southern States seek the National Government to step in and hand over to a National Board of Health certain police powers of the States. Congress does it, and nobody raises the State-rights bugaboo. Congress "has power to provide for the general welfare."

LABOR NEWS.

Threatened Coal Miners' Strike-Mayor Powderly's Resignation.

PITTSBURGH, January 22.—A convention of railroad coal miners is to be held to-morrow to discuss the wages question. The men are now working for 34 cents per bushel, but in view of the fact that divers miners have decided to strike for 4 cents the convention was called to consider the advisability of also demanding an additional half cent. It is thought, however, that no strike will be inaugurated as a movement is on foot between the miners, officials and some operators to have a proposition presented to the convention to settle the wage question hereafter by arbitration, and thus avoid strikes which have become so frequent of late.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

THE CHANGE OF THE PILOT RULES.

St. Louis River Men Prefer that the New Rule in Regard to Ascending and Descending Steamers Should Stand—Kenna's Resignation as Congressman.

From Our Special Correspondent. WASHINGTON, January 22.—Last week the steamboat pilots on the Ohio river petitioned the Board of Inspectors for a change in the pilot rules, giving the descending steamer the right to blow the first whistle for passing, instead of the ascending steamer, as is now the case. To-day a petition was read from the pilots of St. Louis, signed by forty of the leading pilots, remonstrating against the proposed change. The petition says that the present rule giving the descending boat the right to give the first signal, is right for the following reasons: First, a down-stream boat is the more unmanageable and should have the right of way; second, according to the old rule (the one in operation prior to the present rule) the ascending boat having had to give the first signal was compelled to wait until the descending boat accepted her choice; or, in case of non-acceptance, until she altered it, in which case she was compelled to obey. This waiting for and exchanging of signals consumed valuable time and was the great cause of disaster, but by the present system no unnecessary delay is caused. If the rule is followed collisions are absolutely impossible.

ABOUT MR. KENNA.

When He Will Resign to go to the Other End of the Capitol.

From Our Special Correspondent. WASHINGTON, January 22.—Representative Kenna will on Thursday tender his resignation as a member of the Fourth Congress to which he was elected last fall. The Governor will, no doubt, order a special election to be held next May at the time of holding the school elections to choose Mr. Kenna's successor in the House of Representatives. He will remain a member of the present Congress until it expires on March 4th, next, and will then walk over to the Senate to be sworn in as a Senator.

West Virginia Postal Notes.

From Our Special Correspondent. WASHINGTON, January 22.—A postoffice has been established at Marion, Wetzel county, West Virginia, and Marion Moore appointed postmaster. Andrew Waugh was to-day commissioned postmaster at Waugh's Mills, West Virginia.

A Gold Medal for a Philanthropist.

WASHINGTON, January 22.—In the Senate to-day, Mr. Blair, from the Committee on Education, reported favorably the resolution presenting the thanks of Congress to John F. Slater, of Connecticut, for his great beneficence in giving \$1,000,000 for the purpose of educating the colored people and asking that a gold medal be presented to him.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The Secretaries of State and Treasury have agreed upon a form of new Chinese regulations. They will be promulgated in a circular from the Treasury in a day or two.

The House Agricultural Committee has agreed to report favorably Mr. Anderson's bill creating an Agricultural Commission to inquire into the subject of transportation, and other matters pertaining to agricultural products.

Mr. Logan's bill has been reported to the Senate with favorable recommendations. It requires telegraph companies to receive dispatches from any person or from any other line, and transmit the same without favor or prejudice.

The President has approved the Agricultural Appropriation bill; also, an act amending Sections 1,926 and 1,927 of Revised Statutes so as to extend the limits of jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in the Territories of Washington, Idaho and Montana.

THE LAYTON BUTCHERY.

Inquest and Verdict of the Double Murder and Suicide.

RITCHIE SPRINGS, N. Y., January 22.—The interest and excitement over the Layton tragedy continue unabated. It is almost the sole topic of conversation throughout the surrounding country, and as the news spreads the people flock in hordes to get a glimpse of the scene of the terrible crime or to listen to the speculations and gossip of the wisecracks.

Coroner J. G. Marshall, of Cooperstown, arrived at ten o'clock last night, and after he had examined the jury and viewed the bodies, that of Layton was ordered cut down. Early this morning an autopsy was made by Drs. N. Getman and A. B. Brain. The skulls of the two women were found fractured, and the brains were found to be unharmed. There were also marks of the same weapon on the door and furniture. The brain of Layton when examined satisfied the doctors that he had been insane and the cause of his outbreak.

The inquest commenced at noon and from the testimony the jury rendered the following verdict:—"We find that Melissa Layton and Angeline young came to their death by blows inflicted by Harvey Layton, at Ritchie Springs, N. Y., on the 18th of January 1883, with some blunt instrument; and that Harvey Layton died by hanging, which we find to be by his own hand."

During the day a hatchet was found, which had been carelessly washed, but the blade fitted the wounds on the heads of the women and was probably the weapon used. Layton made a will a short time ago giving his property to his adopted children. The deed of the house and lot in this village in which he lived and died in his will was named. The funeral of the victims of this horrible butchery takes place to-morrow. The women are to be buried in the Presbyterian Church yard, and Layton in his own lot in the village cemetery.

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COLD ENOUGH.

Great Suffering in the West—Notes From All Points.

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THE ASHES ESCAPE.

Parker Ashe, who was on the train wrecked at Tahachapi, telegraphs the following: My wife, maid and myself were occupying the drawing room of a sleeper. We were awakened by the swaying of the cars, going at about the rate of seventy miles an hour. We had just braced ourselves when the crash came. The maid was buried in the debris, my wife and myself falling on top of her. The car immediately took fire, and I was forced to take the timber and burning boards off the maid. The car became enveloped in smoke. By the breaking of windows at the top of the car I succeeded in rescuing my wife and maid, pushing them through the window. We were climbing off from the burning car when the train stopped. I heard a man calling for help and beseeching us not to leave him. I reached down through the broken window and succeeded in getting hold of Governor's Downey's hand and hauled him out nearly strangled. We were then hardly got into the car when the train started again. My wife stepped on the window and fell through into the car again.

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Sixty Thousand Gallons Destroyed. Several Buildings Burned.

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A VERY BUSY DAY,

IN BOTH ENDS OF THE STATE HOUSE.

A Senatorial Lottery—Numerous Constitutional Amendments—A Big Fight of New Bills—Executive Session—One New Law Enacted.

Inquiring Into the Assessments.

Long and busy sessions of both houses of the Legislature were held yesterday. In the Senate the divisions were the drawing by Senators Burgess and Harvey for the long term from the Sixth district, and the Executive session. Several interesting and important measures were also introduced or considered.

In the House there was an unusually large amount of discussion on subjects of minor importance to the average reader. The day was distinguished by the introduction of a number of new bills and resolutions, one to adjourn on St. Valentine's Day looking like sarcasm in the face of so much new business. A proposition was made to purchase from the artist, J. A. Faris, the famous historical painting, "The Siege of Fort Henry." The Speaker appointed the remainder of the committee.

THE SENATE

Most Interesting Day Yet—Senator Burgess's Luck.

The Senate came to order at 10 A. M. yesterday. Among the bills introduced was one by Mr. Smith, of Marion, to provide for the inspection of coal mines and regulating the same, and for the protection and safety of persons employed in the same. Mr. McGrew presented a bill amending the "Statute of Limitations" in some minor particulars, and Mr. Scott another to amend the provisions of the Code in relation to the hospital for insane persons.

The following resolution, introduced by Mr. Woodruff, on his motion made the special order for 3 o'clock this afternoon: Whereas, It appears from the Auditor's report, as referred to in the Governor's Message, that for the year ending September 30, 1882, there had been temporary loans made to the State, and remaining unpaid amounting to \$267,511.18, showing that there was a deficit in the State treasury to that amount, therefore

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be and they are, to inquire into and report on the "Finance of the State" for the year 1883 over that of 1881, arising from the re-assessment of lands provided for in Chapter 32 of the Acts of 1882.

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